

Volume 13, Issue 24

Friday, April 20, 2012

The WIRE

An award-winning
JTF journal

It's a zoo in there!

Community library reopens to public

525th Trooper finds solace in rock 'n roll

Chaps, JSMART, MWR, FFSC join forces to help joint forces

COMMAND CORNER

CMD. MASTER CHIEF REYNALDO TIONG

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF, JTF GUANTANAMO

As my tenure here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo comes to an end, I have been reflecting about the interactions I have had with people I have met and worked with in the last 12 months.

My experience here has been overwhelmingly positive as I have been blessed to work with two rear admirals, two brigadier generals, and three chiefs of staff. I also have been able to meet many professionals from all branches of service who have had an impact on my life.

Even though my overall experience has been great, I have to admit there have been some very challenging times here. So if I could leave you all with some advice based on my experience here this is what I would say: "Make every effort to get along and find the good in each other."

Rise above, Troopers. Rise above personality differences. Rise above petty differences. Rise above those who are inconsiderate or rude. Rise above reacting out of frustration or anger. Rise above the critics and naysayers.

Remember what Thumper said in the movie Bambi? "If you can't say something nice, don't say nothin' at all."

Start with that simple rule. Make a decision to start being kind to those around you so you can begin to create a positive environment. Sometimes, that kindness starts as simply keeping your mouth shut when you have the opportunity to really stick it to someone you don't really care for.

Show respect to one another. Respect isn't

only about standing at attention or parade rest, especially when we talk about showing respect to our peers:

Respect is often shown most clearly in the little things. Don't interrupt people when they are talking. Include everyone in your conversations. Look others

in the eye when they are speaking to you. These and other seemingly minor considerations for others can have a major impact on the level of respect in your relationships.

— Ralph Marston, The Daily Motivator

If you do get treated rudely or inconsiderately by another, reach deep in to yourself and find that part of you that was willing to sacrifice for your country. Take that same self-sacrifice and apply it to the individual who slighted you and think

of them first. If you do not respond in kind, but rather be kind, you could be the one who helps them turn their attitude around and maybe even make their day better.

Troopers, you are among a special class of citizens who have chosen to serve your country as part of an all-volunteer force. All of you have volunteered to put yourself in harm's way and frequently be separated from loved ones in your call to duty. You deserve each others' respect.

Look out for each other with kindness. Rise above, Troopers, rise above.

Rise above, Troopers: all of you have volunteered to put yourself in harm's way and frequently be separated from loved ones in your call to duty. You deserve each other's respect.



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Cover: A watchful giraffe can be seen in the children's section of the U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Community Library, which reopened to the public April 12 after an extensive renovation project. The library serves thousands of Naval Station community members and Joint Task Force Troopers every year. —photo by Spc. Ryan Hallock

JOINT TASK FORCE
GUANTANAMO

SAFE • HUMANE • LEGAL • TRANSPARENT

NEWS FROM THE BAY

DJ! Turn it up!

Reggae/hip hop artist Rayvon will perform Saturday at 10 p.m. at the Windjammer Ballroom with Miami's own DJ Epps.

For more information, call 2157 or 75237.

Fitness Aerobathon

All hands are invited to participate in 30 minute intervals of GTMO Moves, circuit training kickboxing and yoga at Denich Gym Wednesday from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

For more information, call 2113.

History hike sequel

MWR Liberty will take Troopers and Guantanamo Bay residents on another history hike on May 5. This time it will be centered around Hicacal.

Call 2010 to find out how you can help.

No pressure, man!

The recompression chamber will be down for maintenance May 7-11. There will be no civilian and recreational diving during this period.

For more information, contact the Command Diving Officer at 4444.

Your vote counts

Military personnel stationed at Guantanamo Bay are encouraged to exercise their right to vote using absentee ballots.

For more information, call Lt. Cdr. Smith at 6157, Lt. Jg. Ricker at 72871, or Petty Officer 1st Class Robles at 4721.



Volunteer everywhere

MWR Liberty is looking for fun facilitators. Do you have your captain's license? Volunteers are needed to take boats out on day and night fishing trips. Are you good at Texas Hold'em poker? Pool? What about ping-pong? Call MWR Liberty at 2010 and volunteer to teach others the your favorite games.

Trail Blazers

Help keep the trails of Gitmo beautiful and clean. The Trail Blazers are looking for volunteers to help cut grass, trim tree limbs, remove trash and anything else it takes to keep your hikes, trail runs and bike rides fun and easy. For more information, call Martin Sullivan at 8243/8242 or email Martin.E.Sullivan@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil.

Red Cross challenge coin sale

The American Red Cross is selling challenge coins at the NEX Saturday to support wounded military personnel and volunteers. Buy one coin for \$10 or three for \$25.

For more information, call 2511.

LDOs who lunch

Attention! Navy personnel, E-5 and above, who are interested in the Limited Duty Officer and Chief Warrant Officer programs are invited to a luncheon at Gold Hill Galley April 27 at 10:30 a.m.

For more information, call Lt. Baldwin at 4650 or Lt. Pecci at 4606.

Radiothon fund drive

Radio GTMO is holding a Radiothon fund drive the week of April 23 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Proceeds go to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/RadioGTMO, or call 3333 or 2100.

I love you, Mom!

Record a Guantanamo shout-out to all the mothers in your life! Send your loved ones a personalized message this Mother's Day. Simply stop by the Camp America sign Monday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

For more information, call 8200 or email Robert.W.Stephenson@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil.

UFC 145 at O'Kelly's

Watch Jon "Bones" Jones and "Suga" Rashad Evans engage in light-heavyweight fist-cuffs Saturday at 9 p.m. on the flat screens at O'Kelly's Irish Pub.

For more information, call 75503.

Day at the Bay

All hands are invited to Ferry Landing Beach for a free community event April 28, 2-6 p.m. featuring a performance by the Dirty Sock Funtime Band.

For more information, call 84616.

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The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,300.

Trooper to Trooper

the power of effective communication

MASTER SGT. JAMES JOHNSON

J1 NCOIC

Communication is a tool we use to get others to understand what we expect of them. "Effective Communication," on the other hand, ensures that your instructions are understood exactly as you meant it to be understood. Communication is simply the act of giving instructions and not really stating your expectations.

Example: you want your Trooper to provide lunch relief for the Quarterdeck today; however, what you really want is for them to provide relief for the entire week. It is truly amazing how the omission of one small word can make such a big difference.

Using effective communication would have rendered the best product the first time. Effective communication is a skill the best leaders possess and they get the most out of their personnel. These leaders are usually very direct and specific with their instruction. They sometimes come across as being overbearing or micromanaging. The bottom line is they get more done with less because of their ability to effectively communicate. When we fail at communication, we fail at the single most important aspect of leading others. We are judged and evaluated by our peers and superiors on how well we communicate up and down the chain of command. Failure to clearly communicate can render catastrophic results and tear an organization down.

Effective communication is like a blueprint that contractors use when building a house. Each part of the blueprint is specific for each contractor, the electrician, the plumber and the carpenter. Each individual



provides a specific service with exacting specifications. If there is a change to the blueprint and it is not effectively communicated, your four bedroom home may now become a three bedroom home instead. Effective communication is critical not only in our place of business; it is also alive and relevant in our everyday life. There is no substitute for effective communication! People who think they do not need to work on their communication skills could be leading under

a flawed pretense. Nobody is immune: I often make mistakes, and when I think about what I said versus what I actually wanted, they are sometimes two different things.

Effective communication is something leaders at all levels should work on: not just for themselves, but for the sake of others as well. Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers of all levels work a no-fail mission, and effective communication is crucial to its success.

MONEY MATTERS

The alphabet soup of TSP funds

Make the G fund a viable option

By Sgt. First Class Kryn Westhoven

While some financial gurus have said that the Thrift Savings Program (TSP) is too conservative in the limited offerings of investment funds, those experts must never have spoken to the 4.5 million people who have \$308 billion invested.

Eighty-six percent of TSP investors were very satisfied or satisfied with the program, when surveyed in 2011. More than half of the survey participants said TSP competition was above other investment options.

That kind of satisfaction could come from not what contributors look upon as a limitation, but more at the simplicity of being able to easily control their financial future.

"Once you expose your money to (investment) risk, you can reap the rewards of it going up in value for you, but you also get the downside if it goes down," according to Walter Barrett, personal finance specialist with the Fleet and Family Support Center at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

Money contributed to TSP is similar to 401K retirement plans offered by civilian employers. You are leaving the secure and safe world of savings accounts and certificates of deposit and entering uninsured world of investments and the stock market.

TSP contributors enter the investment waters more or less on their own, without the aid of financial advisors or stockbrokers. There are detailed tools to help first time thrift savers stick their toes into the water at www.tsp.gov.

This is where you begin once you start TSP deductions and you have received your PIN in the mail. Initially, all TSP contributions are allocated to the G Fund, the government securities fund which offers consistent rates

that are lower than riskier investments. Last year the G Fund averaged 2.45 percent.

That PIN and your social security number allow access to your account whether on the website or through the Thriftline at 1-TSP-YOU-FRST (1-877-968-3778). Both account access points allow you to get balance and allocation information, make interfund transfers and change fund allocation percentages.

The fund allocation is where choices are made to invest in various individual or life-cycle funds. Next week we will go into greater detail about each funds investment goal and how to view the risks versus rewards.

The TSP website offers the current rates offered on each fund, which are calculated after stock and bond markets close. The daily net earnings for each investment fund minus fees are divided into the total number of shares. What you will see is an incremental change in share prices, what investors need to focus according to experts is the long term, year after year performance of fund in relationship to your retirement goals.

Internal Revenue Services rules govern withdrawals after age 59 and a half. A participant may leave their funds in the TSP, but must withdraw the entire balance or receive monthly payments by April 1 of the year following the year the member reaches the age of 70 and a half. Also, once out of uniform, service members may roll over a TSP account into a qualifying retirement account, either with the new employer or an IRA.

Like most IRA or 401K plans there is a loan provision, but Barrett warns, "the money is off the playing field."

There are two types of TSP loans and a service member can have one of each type active at any one time. The minimum term

Money really does matter, especially when it comes to building a nest egg: this is part two of a three-part series on managing Thrift Savings Program funds.

lengths run from one to five years for personal loans and up to 15 years for the residence loan. The loans start at \$1,000 and the maximum is \$50,000, depending on the amount of contributions in the account.

Loans are repaid through payroll deduction. There is no penalty for pre-payment and the G Fund return rate is the interest rate charged at the time the application is processed.

That low interest rate is enticing, but Barrett warns that money borrowed is losing the ability to earned income and dilutes the power of compounding.

"Look at it as a retirement vehicle. You need to leave it alone so it can compound," said Barrett.

Barrett added that TSP contributors benefit from a do-it-yourself investment model with much lower costs to run the program. The expense ratio is .025 percent compared to industry averages that are more than 10 to 25 times higher. For example it costs 25 cents to manage a \$1,000 in TSP, while the average expense ratio in 2010 for money market funds would put that cost at \$2.80 for that same amount invested.

Barrett is available every Thursday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Fleet and Family Support Center satellite office located next to the Camp America post office. Call 4050 or 4141 to set up an appointment.



Identity theft happens every day

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personally identifying information, like your name, Social Security number, or credit card number, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that as many as 9 million Americans have their identities stolen each year. The crime takes many forms. Identity thieves may rent an apartment, obtain a credit card, or establish a telephone account in your name. You may not find out about the theft until you review your credit report or a credit card statement and notice charges you didn't make – or until you're contacted by a debt collector. Identity theft is serious. Some identity theft victims spend hundreds of dollars and many days repairing damage to their good name and credit record. Some consumers victimized by identity theft may lose out on job opportunities, or be denied loans for education, housing or cars because of negative information on their credit reports. Protect yourself from identity thieves. Practice good OPSEC!



did you know...

The Joint Task Force Intranet has classified ads! Click through the new SharePoint page with the Intranet tab. Scroll down to "classifieds" under "useful JTF links" and see what your buddies have for sale! Someone here must be going off island soon - buy their furniture!

TROOPER FOCUS

By Spc. Vanessa Davila

If you've arrived at the Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Air Terminal in the last eight months you've probably been greeted by Sgt. Xenia Luna. She is responsible for in-processing arriving troops, and she does it with a big smile.

"I get to see everybody when they first get off the plane," she said. "I like that."

It is no surprise then that the thing Luna has enjoyed the most about her 15 years in service has been the people.

"You're only going to meet people for a few months but you'll be surprised the friendships you develop in the short time span you know them," she said. "It will carry you for years to come."

Luna's vibrant personality is present everywhere. It is hard to miss the pink bedazzled stapler and computer mouse on her desk. Her boss, Army Master Sgt. James Johnson says that Luna's warm personality is her greatest trait. Make no mistake though; there are many reasons why she is an asset to her team.

Luna is currently serving as a human resources specialist in Joint Task Force Guantanamo

Bay, but she is also MOS (Military Occupation Specialty) qualified as a chaplain assistant and military police Soldier. Back in Florida she is the full-time UA (unit administrator) for her reserve unit, the 641st Regional Support Group. As the UA she was responsible for the majority of the preparations for the unit's deployment to Guantanamo Bay. The cherry on top: her master's degree in criminal justice.

"I look at a person's body of work. Not necessarily what they do in one mission. It's what they bring to the table as a whole and I think Sgt. Luna has done exceptionally well," said Johnson.



BULLET BIO: SGT XENIA LUNA

Time in service: 15 years

Hobbies: Sudoku, crossword puzzles, decorating

The boss says: "She has a very warm, pleasant personality. She's friendly, very outgoing, and always smiling."

Advice to junior Troopers: "You will make a lot of mistakes; learn from them but also learn from others' mistakes."

What do you think about the Navy's new uniform?



"It's great. It's better fitting and cooler-feeling."

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class
Marijka Temple



"The new uniforms look better than the blues. They look a lot like ours in the Marine Corps."

USMC Sgt. Rose Coleman



"I didn't like the blues, but these are so much better."

Spc. John Demeres



"The new uniforms look like guacamole!"

Yeoman 2nd Class
Breanna Brown

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

The consequences of using 'Spice'

From Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii – Two Sailors were interviewed about their use of Spice and the consequences – it ended their careers in less than two months.

After 30 days confined in the brig and separation from the Navy in March, the two Sailors volunteered to come forward and talk about how the use of synthetic drugs affected their

lives. At their request, their last names were withheld for the purpose of this story.

"I was a little bit surprised, but I had a feeling when I got caught my life was going to change," said Joel, who was caught in possession of Spice.

In February 2012, two Hawaii-based Sailors, Joel and Bridgette, were arrested after a routine traffic stop when a police officer discovered evidence of Spice concealed on their person

and inside their vehicle.

Spice, a synthetic drug, looks similar to marijuana or oregano and is used for its psychoactive and hallucinogenic effects. The Navy has zero tolerance for drug abuse, including the use of designer and synthetic compounds such as Spice.

An investigation ensued and the two Sailors were court-martialed and sentenced to 30 days confinement, forfeiture of two-thirds pay for one month and reduction to E-1.

For both Joel and Bridgette, Spice and other synthetic drugs are easy to come by. Aside from their peers, the illegal products are falsely marketed by manufacturers in commercial-like packages as a safe way to get high while avoiding drug testing.

Stephen Ludwig, the evidence custodian for the Criminal Investigation Division of Commander Navy Region Hawaii, said the military in Hawaii is the biggest customer of synthetic drug sales. He said the artwork on the packaging can look very attractive, no one would guess that they actually contain illegal substances.

It did not take long for Spice

to have a negative effect on both Joel and Bridgette.

"After it all cleared and faded away, I felt groggy," said Joel. "I felt tired. I woke up in the morning puking for like 10 minutes at a time."

Lt. Jg. John White, a Navy judge advocate assigned at the Region Legal Service Office Hawaii, said that using Spice puts one's career at risk, but there is also the risk to the user's health.

"When on Spice, one's mental faculties are diminished, making it potentially fatal when one is working on military vessels, aircraft or with weaponry, where errors in judgment can cost lives," said White.

Joel and Bridgette were both discharged from the Navy at the end of March 2012.

The Navy's capacity for testing for designer drugs will continue to expand. During fiscal year 2012 the Navy will invest \$1.73 million to test for synthetic chemical compounds and expects to increase that amount to \$2.9 million in fiscal year 2013.

"They're going to see Spice everywhere they go because it's a bigger problem than people actually realize," said Bridgette.

Super Troopers

Congratulations to the Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers who recently received commander's coins!

SPC Cox
SCPO Hanson MCPO Roberts
SPC Hayes TSGT Sprake
LTC Holcombe PFC Swearingen



Malware makes numerous system modifications which then make it extremely difficult to terminate unauthorized activities and remove the program. It also causes realistic, interactive security warnings to

Fake antivirus is malicious software (malware) designed to steal information from unsuspecting users by mimicking legitimate security software.

be displayed to the computer user. Criminals distribute this type of malware using search engines, emails, social networking sites, Internet advertisements and other malware. The presence of pop-ups displaying unusual security warnings and asking for credit card or personal information is the most obvious method of identifying a fake antivirus infection. Fake antivirus software use fake names to mimic real

antivirus software. Some examples are Internet Antivirus Pro, Antivirus 360, and Antivirus System PRO.

- Be cautious when visiting web links or opening attachments from unknown senders.
- Keep software patched and updated.
- To purchase or renew software subscriptions, visit the vendor sites directly.
- Monitor your credit cards for unauthorized activity.

‘Specialized training for a specialized mission’

525th MP Bn. conducts pre-service training

Background: Staff Sergeant Richard Renn demonstrates a defensive tactic to Troopers in the 525th Military Police Battalion. New Troopers with the battalion practice Unarmed Self Defense training as part of their pre-service course. —photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ty Bjornson

By Pvt. Loren Cook

A group of Soldiers gathered in a circle in the baseball diamond at Cooper Field. Suddenly, pairs of Soldiers got on their knees, faced each other, and started pushing and pulling one another, trying to force each other to the ground. As Soldiers fell to the turf, they began rolling around with each other, each trying to get a dominant position.

Was it group hysteria? No. Anarchy? Negative. A particularly nasty after-action review? Wrong again!

These Soldiers were conducting Modern Army Combatives training, just one part of the pre-service training conducted by the 525th Military Police Battalion in the past week.

Pre-service training is given to all new Troopers when they arrive at the 525th and is designed to put new personnel on an equal footing with veterans of the unit.

Troopers newly assigned to the 525th MP Battalion are already trained and proficient with their warrior tasks and drills before they arrive, but the pre-service training they receive upon arrival ensures they are experts at their craft.

“We give new Soldiers specialized training for a specialized mission,” said Staff Sgt. Richard Renn, the battalion’s

training noncommissioned officer. “It’s a whole different environment down here at Guantanamo compared to what they may have been trained for at Advanced Individual Training.”

Pre-service training covers a wide variety of different subjects, including behavioral science, cultural awareness training, water survival training,

preventive medicine, and unarmed self-defense.

“These Soldiers have a complex mission,” Renn said.

While the training is focused toward detention facility operations, Soldiers in supporting roles receive the same training.

“I like the training. It affirms that we’re still Soldiers even though we’re here for support,” said Pfc. Edwina Figueroa, a paralegal with the battalion.

“My favorite part was the water survival training,” said Pvt. Breyana Lewis, a food service specialist. “Although I can’t swim, I learned how to use my uniform pants as a flotation device.”

Pre-service training is an integral part of the battalion’s commitment to provide tough, realistic training to all Soldiers.

“It’s our job as NCOs to provide these Soldiers with the training they need – not just to do their job here, but to tackle any task they may face,” Renn said.

A new location, a new alliance



Cmd. Master Chief Renaldo Tiong, JSMART Lt. Erin Graham, Joint Task Force Chaplain Capt. Bradley Thom, Kathy Selves of the Fleet and Family Support Center, Joint Medical Group Commander Capt. Richard Stoltz, and Joint Task Force Chaplain Lt. Col. Alan Chouest gathered to cut the cake at a Burger Burn on April 13. —photo by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

By Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

The mental health and welfare of Troopers is one of the many factors in the success of the Joint Task Force Mission. Four organizations stand in the forefront in the battle to ensure Troopers’ wellbeing, and now they’re located next to one another.

The Joint Stress Mitigation and Restoration Team, the Troopers Chapel, and Fleet Family and Support Center held a Burger Burn April 13 with the help of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) to showcase their new facilities and let Troopers know that their services are available.

“We all worked together to make this happen,” said Joint Task Force Command Chaplain Navy Capt. Bradley Thom. “A lot of people pitched in a cooperative spirit.”

Now that the four organizations share the same buildings, they can cooperate better to identify and help solve Troopers’ problems.

“Let’s say you came to see me as a chaplain and you have various things going in your life,” said Thom “I might say ‘your problem isn’t a spiritual problem’ and so I’m going to either take you over to the Fleet and Family Support Center or JSMART.”

Each chain of support offers Troopers different services or techniques to address

their issues and stresses.

The Fleet and Family Support Center offers Troopers deployed to Guantanamo Bay a wide range of services and programs ranging from career development to financial education and counseling.

“We offer counseling and assistance for Troopers and everyone on the island,” said Kathy Selves the Licensed Clinical Social Work Director. “We are there to help support the Trooper and make sure they can do their job by helping them take care of their personal issues.”

By fighting back the stress before it becomes debilitating, JSMART actively reaches out to Troopers through one-one and group counseling.

“Our mission is to support all the JTF and help get them through what their mission is,” said Navy Lt. Erin Graham JSMART Officer in Charge. “If they are having difficulties with co-workers, work or with things going on back home and it’s getting to their breaking point, we’re there to support them.”

The chaplain’s office offers spiritual and moral guidance to deployed Troopers and can be a private channel for Troopers to talk about their personal problems. The Chaplains also offers programs to help Troopers maintain contact with their loved ones

in unconventional ways, such as the United Through Reading. The program lets Troopers record and send a video message to their families back home.

MWR threw their talents into Friday’s Burger Burn by grilling chicken and hamburgers for the Troopers who came down to the open house event. Although they are most often remembered for the “R” in their name, the MWR is dedicated to the morale and welfare of Troopers.

“I think it all goes hand in hand,” said Jill Lynch, the MWR Liberty program manager. “If you are out there enjoying yourself in the recreational area, your morale and welfare is definitely going to improve because you’re not at work.”

With the organizations now collocated next to one another, the cooperative support can be appreciated by all members of the JTF.

“I have attended several of the classes with the Fleet and Family Support Center,” said Tech. Sgt. David Poitras of the Prime Base Engineering Emergency force, 474th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron. “I feel that they all do a lot for the troops here.”

525TH LEADER LETS

THE GOOD TIMES ROCK 'N ROLL

By Army 1st. Lt. Amelia Thatcher
Photos by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

When Army Master Sgt. Vince "Ollie" North arrived to Guantanamo Bay with the 525th Military Police Battalion, he already knew how he wanted to spend his free time. Self-taught on the electric guitar, North sought out the Gitmo music scene and found a home in rock quintet Genius Kong.

"I ran into another member of the band and simply mentioned that I play guitar," he said, describing how he met his fellow rockers.

North called himself "a metal child of the '80s" and "a musician by habit."

"I'm not formally trained," he said. "I don't read music; I've been playing by ear for so many years, I just pick up songs. You can develop a lot of musical theory just by listening."

North's music was a staple hobby during a previous deployment to Afghanistan, where he played "guitar night Thursdays." Now as the lead guitarist for Genius Kong, he's out of the barracks and playing for audiences at O'Kelly's Irish Pub, the Tiki Bar, and the Chief Petty Officers 199th Birthday celebration.

"We do the crowd-pleasers, contemporary rock and old school metal," North said. "Pretty much everyone in the world likes the (Red Hot) Chili Peppers."

North's six-string echoed across the Tiki Bar patio into the fading late afternoon sun as he, lead singer Petty Officer 1st Class Mike Braun and rhythm guitarist

Petty Officer 2nd Class Justin Ailes, both from U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay; and Naval Station civilians bassist Andrew Perry and drummer Jamie Bodlovic finished their sound checks and prepped their set. With three shows now under their belts, the rockers of Genius Kong are here to stay. Mostly.

"We have some personnel changes coming up," North said, referring to Braun's upcoming departure.

But Genius Kong should have no trouble finding a replacement, as long as North is around to act as the Pied Piper of musicians.



Top: 525th Military Police Battalion's Master Sgt. Vince North rocked out with Genius Kong at the Tiki Bar.



Genius Kong, left to right
Petty Officer 2nd Class Justin Ailes, rhythm guitar
Master Sgt. Vince North, guitar
Petty Officer 1st Class Mike Braun, vocals
Jamie Bodlovic, drums
Andrew Perry, bass

Library Hours

Mon.–Sat., 8 a.m.–9 p.m.

Sun. & Holidays, 12 p.m.–9 p.m.



The MWR Community Library boasts more than 25,000 lendable items and serves thousands of U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay community members and Joint Task Force Troopers every year. The recently completed renovation replaced worn carpeting, paint, and the wear-and-tear from years of devoted bookworms' visits. —photos by Spc. Ryan Hallock

ENTER THE LIBRARY

With much-needed renovations now complete, MWR reopens the library doors

By Spc. Ryan Hallock

There is no knowledge that is not power.”

An old Mortal Kombat proverb is inspiration to any motivated Trooper. So where does one obtain knowledge? Where does the quest for enlightenment begin? Let us enter the library.

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation Community Library at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba reopened to the public April 12 and is stocked with enough brain food to feed the entire island. The library closed in February to undergo renovations.

“It hadn’t had any work done to it in at least seven years,” said Amy Roumell, MWR supervisory librarian. “The carpet was worn, stained and pink. The walls were really worn down. We get thousands of people a year coming through here and you could really see the wear and tear.”

With the improvements completed, the library’s new atmosphere provides a relaxing environment and welcomes all those hungry for knowledge and entertainment. The library offers something for all ages with more than 25,000 items to check out. Books, audio books and DVDs are readily available for check out by members. A person must be on island 45 days to become a member and to obtain a library card: the key to the untapped knowledge on the shelves.

“That’s really the beauty of public libraries, the access to information for everyone,” said Roumell. “You can learn about anything from the flowers on Guantanamo Bay to JFK.”

Sunlight radiates through the library windows and bounces off the refinished floors onto the pages of readers’ paperbacks. That familiar, pleasant book-

smell lingers in the air; a smell a reader can’t get from his brand new Kindle. The leather recliners are perfect for an afternoon read, and better yet, if one has the luxury of time, a nap.

There are 18 brand new computers all updated with Windows 7 and Microsoft Office 2007. Each workstation has a free web cam providing guests with the ability to connect with loved ones across the world.

If you’re lying in bed late at night wondering what your family and friends are doing, take comfort in the fact that new LED lights and extra electrical outlets were installed outside of the library. Free wireless internet is available between six a.m. and one a.m. for the public to set up camp with their laptops and mobile devices.

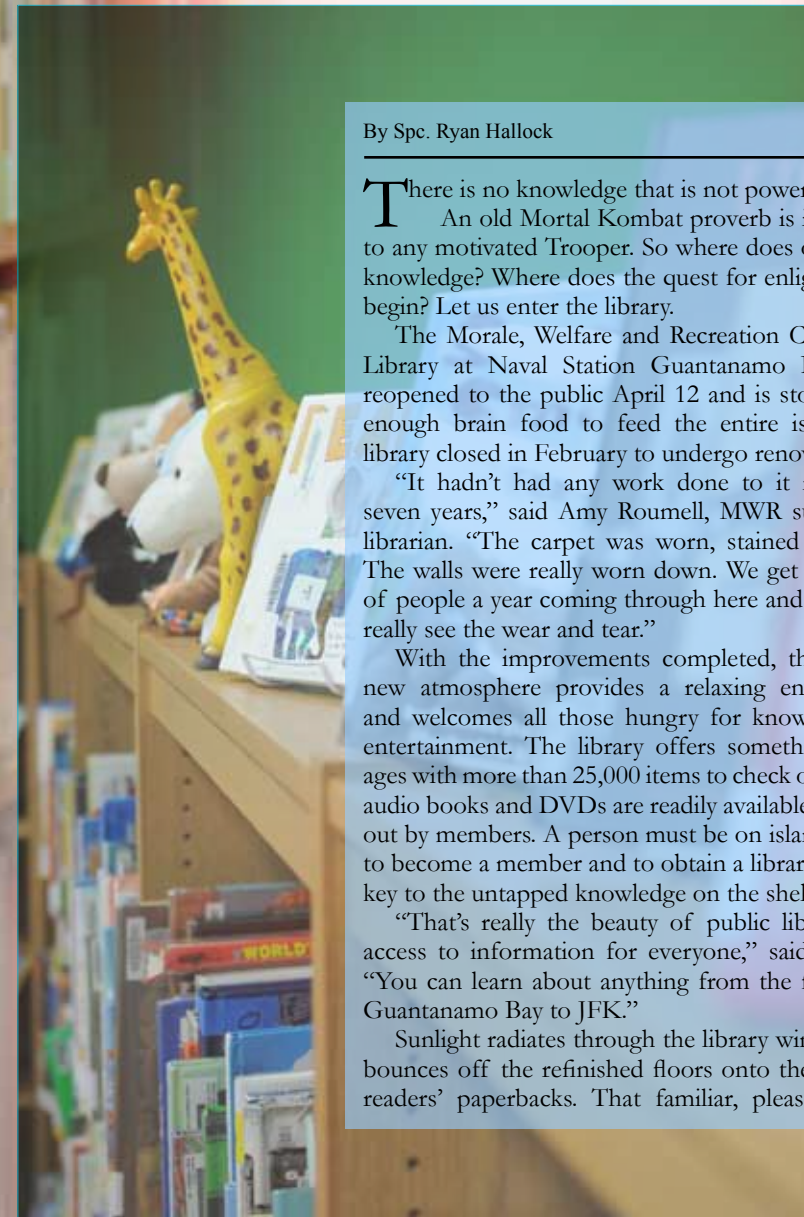
“It’s been good,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Seth Bustillos, who uses the library’s WiFi to contact home. “Skype works and I’m able to see my family. It’s nice to see them; I usually contact them about once a week.”

Roumell expects new items to come in monthly and takes requests for new orders. The library offers free books and many are brand new or newly released.

If you haven’t been to the library since your grandmother took you when you were little, come check out this one. Kick back and let the stress of life deployment as you dive into a new book and mind adventure.

“Imagination is a wonderful thing,” said Roumell. “I always like seeing the movie that goes along with the book, but I always want to read the book first.”

Enter the MWR library and gain power from the knowledge within.



Shuttle Discovery flies final mission, ends chapter in aerospace history

By Airman 1st Class Alexander Riedel
Defense Media Activity

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. – After almost 27 years and 39 flights in Earth’s orbit, the space shuttle Discovery arrived at Dulles Airport in Washington, D.C., April 17 on its way to its final resting place.

The last moments in the air for Discovery began at Kennedy Space Center, Fla., mounted on top of a modified Boeing 747. The retired spacecraft will take final residence in a hangar at the Smithsonian’s Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center April 19, in Chantilly, Va.

At its new home, Discovery will stand on the same spot the shuttle Enterprise occupied since the center’s opening in 2003, according to Dr. Valerie Neal, the curator at the National Air and Space Museum. Unlike Discovery, Enterprise was only a test vehicle and was never used for space flight, making it a less significant artifact to experts. Therefore, it was moved to the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum in New York.

On duty since 1984, Discovery was the third orbiter that was built and is now the oldest shuttle remaining in the fleet.

“Because it started service so early, it flew all different types of missions shuttles were assigned,” said Neal. “In our view, it’s the champion of the shuttle fleet and really helps tell the story of the shuttle era.”

Most visitors will be shocked by the immense size of the orbiter, which on TV often seemed dwarfed by its external tank and booster rockets, Neal said. Others may wonder about the shuttle’s outer condition. Its exterior is well worn and the black tiles of its heat shield show the scars that earth’s atmosphere inflicted.

“We asked NASA not to clean the exterior or repaint it,” Neal said. “We wanted Discovery to be as it was after it flew its last mission.”

Changes to the orbiters were minor, Neal said, but included required deinstallation of maneuvering pods, which contained traces

of hazardous fuels, and the removal of the shuttle’s main engines, which NASA is planning to reuse in the future.



As the shuttle takes its place among the Enola Gay and other iconic aircraft, it also puts a close to a chapter of Air Force history.

“The intention in the 1970s was to put all missions, civil and military, on the shuttle once it became operational,” said Rick Sturdevant, the deputy director of history at the Air Force Space Command. “It was supposed to become the only launch vehicle for the U.S., but a lot of Air Force personnel doubted it was a good idea to put all of our eggs in one basket.”

“However, as the shuttle approached, Air Force planning intensified with the construction of a shuttle launch complex at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., and a Shuttle Operations and Planning Center at Shriever Air Force Base, Colo,” Sturdevant said. “One of the primary reasons for the creation of what was later to become Air Force Space Command was the intention of administrating and planning shuttle operations for the Department of Defense.”

While much of these installations were never used to full capacity, the Air Force provided services, such as range support during launches and tracking of orbital debris in protection of the shuttle.

Sturdevant said he believes the shuttle caused Air Force

leadership to think more operationally about space and what the Air Force could do to use space in support of war-fighting capabilities. The shuttle was supposed to become essential in transporting those war-fighting assets into orbit.

“For 30 years, it was the premier aerospace vehicle in the world,” said Tom Jones, a former shuttle pilot. “It was the most complex machine ever built and had capabilities in space that have yet to be matched, thirty years after it came onto the scene.”

The shuttle established a semblance of routine space flight, Neal said. Space flight seemed like it was no longer going to be extraordinary, but that it was becoming a normal enterprise of the United States.

Two of the originally five sister-ships were destroyed during operations. In 1986, Challenger exploded shortly after take-off, and in 2003, Columbia was torn apart during re-entry into earth’s atmosphere. During both accidents, all seven crew members were lost.

“In many ways, the orbiter left a bitter taste in the mouth of many senior Air Force officials,” said Dwayne Day, a senior program officer with the National Research

see DISCOVERY next page

Space shuttle Discovery, mounted atop a NASA 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft, flew near the U.S. Capitol April 17. The first orbiter retired from NASA’s shuttle fleet, Discovery completed 39 missions, spent 365 days in space, orbited the Earth 5,830 times, and traveled 148,221,675 miles. NASA will transfer Discovery to the National Air and Space Museum to begin its new mission to commemorate past achievements in space and to educate and inspire future generations of explorers. –NASA photo

Armed Services Blood Program saves lives

By Staff Sgt. Tiffany Trojca
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON – Military members and civilians have a unique opportunity to support military hospitals, ships, combat support hospitals and medics on the frontline regardless of where they are stationed by giving blood and platelet donations to the Armed Services Blood Program.

The ASBP is a military blood program in the United States that provides quality blood products and services to customers world-

wide in peace and war.

“Donating blood is important because, currently, there is no substitute for whole blood or platelets for the human body to nourish its cells once there is a large amount of blood loss due to injury or some type of disease process,” said Jerrick Alexander, a blood donor recruiter.

Individuals are given the option to donate whole blood or platelets.

Whole blood donation takes approximately an hour and about one pint is withdrawn at a time, while platelet donation can take up to

two hours, Alexander said. The big difference in the two is when giving platelets, only part of the blood is donated. The rest is returned intravenously to the person.

Since platelets are a component of blood that is essential for clotting, they are routinely needed to support cancer therapy, open heart surgery, blood disorders and organ transplants, he said. And, because platelets must be transfused within five days of collection, the supply is in need of constant replenishing.

For more information about ASBP, visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil.

DISCOVERY cont.

Council. “It helped develop a number of important technologies, and delivered numerous important scientific and national security payloads.”

But the military did not get as much out of the program as hoped, and stopped DoD shuttle operations after the Challenger tragedy.

“People died in very public ways,” said Day, who worked on the Columbia accident investigation board in 2003. “There were no ejection seats, no escape pods,” Day said. “If the vehicle was damaged, the crew was doomed. It was a bad situation.”

“The shuttle educated the military about having a distributed way of getting into orbit,” said Jones. “Challenger only exposed the vulnerability of having only one way of getting your payloads into space.”

The Air Force quickly responded and broadened its base, said Jones.

“What the orbiter did gain for the military was cutting-edge experience on human operations in space,” explained Jones. “Now, with the classified X 37, which is sort of a derivative of the shuttle, the Air Force is taking full advantage of the lessons learned.”

It took a lot more maintenance than was anticipated, said Neal, and maintenance took a long time in between flights, so the shuttle never deployed as routinely as desired.

“It was a very expensive vehicle,” said Day. “It was so expensive that it made it difficult to find funding to develop a replacement vehicle.”

Retired Air Force Col. John Casper, a former shuttle pilot, said the shuttle lasting legacy will be its contribution to building the International Space Station.

“Sixteen different nations are involved, forming what is often called the largest international program since the cooperation of the Allies in WWII,” said Casper. “Another legacy is the Hubble Space telescope, which the shuttle carried into orbit.”

For Casper, the transition, from an Air Force squadron to the astronaut corps, was an easy one.

“There is real joy in working as a team and experience tremendous teamwork with people that are very dedicated, very much like it was the Air Force,” said Casper about shuttle crews. “It was a talented, educated and disciplined team, that was very passionate about what they do.”

Like many missions in the Air Force, shuttle operations called for precision, professionalism and complete immersion in the job, said Jones.

Memories of experiences with the shuttles will always stay with the astronauts, they said.

“To look down onto our home - this great, beautiful planet - was very fulfilling,” said Jones. “It is so lovely that tears came to your eyes when you get a chance to reflect upon what you are seeing.”

For Casper, flying the shuttle was unlike anything possible on earth.

“The shuttle was not like a fighter. The only time you really flew it like a plane was the landing,” said Casper. “And then it could only glide back to earth. There was no way to try the landing again - you only got one chance.”

After the Columbia accident, Casper became NASA’s Mishap Investigation Team’s deputy for the debris recovery operation. While the nation was in shock, he said he lost friends.

“The community of astronauts is very small. We all know each other. Some even flew together in the Air Force,” said Casper. “I guess it was also in the Air Force that you find out what happened, try to correct the problem and get back to the mission.”

“You can’t let it stop you,” said Casper. “You can’t stop flying planes in the Air Force and you can’t stop exploring in space.”

But the shuttle mission is over and new

technology is needed to move onto bigger and better things, said Casper. But a certain sadness remains for the astronaut and space enthusiasts alike.

“Most shuttles have about 25 to 35 flights,” said Casper. “But they were built for 100 flights each. So they’re in pristine shape.”

Thinking that the shuttles were old and decrepit is a common misconception, said Neal.

“The fleet has, in fact, been constantly updated, to the point that the shuttles that flew in 2011 were hardly the same as in 1984,” said Neal. “It was the same airframe, but a lot of the technology inside was new,” said Neal.

For Casper, now an assistant for program integration for NASA’s Orion program, a strong space program is an essential political and military tool of the future, he said. “Venturing into space is a demonstration to the world that we have the ability and the will to do so,” he said. “It is a necessary extension of aerospace power and the Air Force’s mission.”

One important mission for the shuttle will continue even at the museum - it will continue to inspire.

“Seeing the U.S. Flag hanging on the hangar wall behind the shuttle, just like it did when it was in its assembly and servicing hangar, you realize that the shuttle is an icon for the United States,” Neal said.

Neal’s team wanted to make the arrival at the museum as accessible as possible, she said. The transfer from NASA was free to the museum and seeing the shuttle will be free to the public -after all it was the public that has supported and financed the shuttle program all along, Neal insisted.

“This is the spacecraft of your generation, it is an American icon,” said Neal. “If you never made it to a launch or landing, you really owe it to yourself to see how the U.S. went into space during your lifetime. Come and take pride and ownership in it.”

Cuba reforms economy in effort to preserve political system

By Jerome Socolovsky
Voice of America News

HAVANA – Ovidio Ulloa swings open his iron gate and lets in a group of women who had seen the handwritten “Se Vende,” or For Sale, sign in the window of his home. He gives them a tour of the dining room, the brightly lit patio and the kitchen, pointing out selling points including high ceilings and colorfully patterned hydraulic floor tiles.

The women appear unimpressed, but that does not seem to bother Ulloa. He already has several offers for the home in Havana. And he is eager to move out after living there for 20 years.

“Because this place is too big for me,” he said. “I want to downsize, look for a smaller place for me and my son, and have money left over to live on.”

That is allowed under a law passed last year that permits the sale of real estate in Cuba. Already, there’s a bustling real estate market, with homes being sold at informal street exchanges as well as on websites such as cubisima.com and revolico.com.

Recently, President Barack Obama faced criticism from other leaders at the Summit of the Americas in Colombia for insisting on

democratic reforms in Cuba before the United States will lift its 50-year-old economic embargo against the island nation. But Cuba is pushing through economic reforms in the hope of preserving the political status quo.

“In Cuba, we are updating the Cuban economic model to make our socialism sustainable,” the official in charge of privatization, Vice President of the Council of State Manuel Murillo, told reporters covering Pope Benedict XVI’s recent visit.

Another home for sale is a palatial neo-classical structure. At \$90,000, it would be a bargain in many other markets, but it needs work. Crumbling Corinthian columns are buttressed by wooden struts. Plaster has crumbled from the ceiling to reveal rusted steel reinforcing bars.

Owner Francisco Prats says President Raul Castro’s reforms are necessary. “The world is developing and this society is part of that world and also has to develop,” he said.

Across Havana, street after street of dilapidated architecture harks back to a more prosperous era. So do the classic automobiles - 1950s Studebakers, Cadillac Fleetwoods and de Villes - that now can also be sold by individuals.

Since taking over from his brother Fidel,

Raul Castro has recognized the need for change, says Philip Peters of the Lexington Institute research group near Washington, D.C. “It is an economy that does not produce enough and the government has been very blunt about saying that,” he said.

After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Cuba suffered severe shortages and economic crisis. But the farm sector was restructured in the 1990s and markets now teem with the organically grown produce. On the streets, the reforms of the last year-and-a-half have increased the number of small entrepreneurs selling ice cream, eggs and crafts.

La Casa is one of a growing number of home restaurants known as paladares that have been around since the 1990s.

Co-owner Silvia Cardoso reveals her secret of success. “Lots of work and trying to obtain quality products even if it means less earnings,” she said.

Although largely for foreigners, the paladares increasingly cater to local clientele. Cardoso’s husband, Manuel Robaina, worked in restaurants before Cuba’s communist revolution and says his business is not about profits. “I have never looked at it like a capitalist because I have bad memories of that,” he said.

IN THE FIGHT

Moroccans, 24th MEU Marines prep for completion of Exercise Africa Lion 2012

By Lance Cpl. Tyler Main

Marine Forces Africa

CAP DRAA, Morocco – Marines of 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Battalion Landing Team, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit and Moroccan Armed Forces service members, teamed up to rehearse the final exercise for Exercise Africa Lion 2012 in Cap Draa, Morocco.

Starting at their encampments, Marines and Moroccan soldiers boarded helicopters, flew to the target objective and worked bilaterally to eliminate a simulated enemy threat.

“The entire goal of this exercise is to be able to combine forces, integrate and complete a mission using both countries’ style of tactics,” said Lance Cpl. Samuel-Jesse Landry, a squad automatic weapon gunner with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, BLT, 24th MEU. “I think we did that.”

The multinational force was cooperating days prior to the rehearsal and was able to complete the mission in less than 15 minutes. Landry thought this was important, not only for the final exercise to be a success, but for success in future operations.

“Maybe one day down the road, since we’re allies, we’ll need to cooperate and lean on the Moroccans’ expertise in a real world mission,” he said. Squad leader Sgt. Justin B. Orange added he would be glad if he had the opportunity to work alongside his Moroccan counterparts in the future.

“They’re a good fighting force, and we’ve had a good time out here training with them,” he said. “They’ve picked up quickly on the things we’ve taught them, and they actually showed us how they embarked and departed from helicopters.”

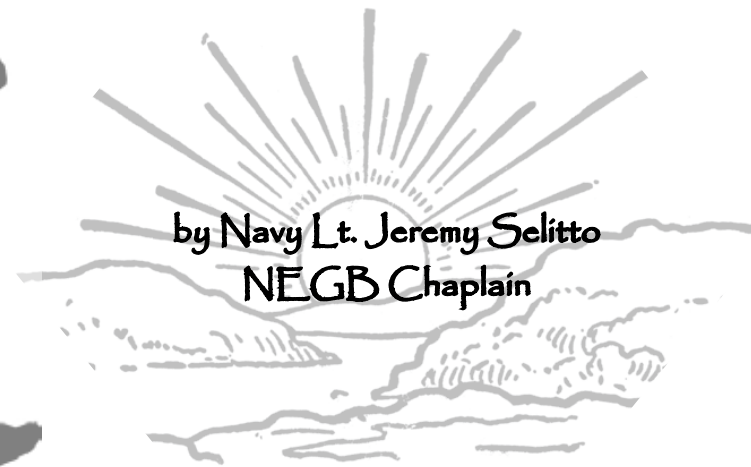
Landry said the experience he’s had with the Moroccan service members at Cap Draa

was a memorable one.

“I’ve never been out of the U.S., I’ve never seen big sand dunes, and I’ve never communicated with people from another country, so this is definitely something I can tell stories about,” Landry said. “Not many people can say they’ve ever done the things I’ve gotten to do here.”

AL-12 is a U.S. African Command-sponsored, Marine Forces Africa-led exercise involving various types of training including command post, live-fire and maneuvering, peace keeping operations, an intelligence capacity building seminar, aerial refueling/low-level flight training, as well as medical and dental assistance projects.

The annual exercise is designed to improve interoperability and mutual understanding of each nation’s military tactics, techniques and procedures.



Navigating the sandstorms of marriage

In March 2003 coalition forces pressed into Iraq from Kuwait despite a blinding sandstorm of near apocalyptic magnitude and timing. A young Army specialist was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Like many others he had been married only a few months. His sweetheart anxiously waited for his return home and prayed for his safety. A few months into the deployment they had a phone conversation that was formative. The young bride said, “I can’t take it anymore. I can’t do this.”

The Army specialist was devastated. As a devout Christian he never thought his marriage would fall apart. He loved her. She loved him. They loved God. Why couldn’t they make it work?

Have you ever found yourself in a relationship sandstorm? “Visibility” is so low, communication and progress grind to a halt. Tensions run high. For a time it feels like you are never going to make it. Maybe the tensions blow over and the dust settles, but the damage is done.

As a Christian Chaplain I find principles for life in the Hebrew and Christian

scriptures. The first principle I give couples in counseling or premarital counseling is from Genesis chapter 2, verse 24: husband and wife are one flesh. Each person in marriage is an equal complimenting half to his or her spouse.

Imagine a piece of paper torn in half. Each half has a smooth edge and a jagged edge. Husband and wife bring their own strengths (smooth edges) to the relationship. They also bring their weaknesses (jagged edges) but unlike paper our jagged edges can grow. Let’s call them “growing edges” instead. Your role in marriage is to learn your own strengths and growing edges.

Your next role is to learn your spouse’s strengths and growing edges and become a complement to those growing edges. We encourage them in their growth and try hard not to get upset when they act out of their jagged edge. I am not saying we allow destructive behavior to go unchecked like substance abuse or domestic violence. I am

referring to those times of disagreement that flow out of insecurities or misunderstandings. One flesh means finding common ground with your spouse; not “who’s right.” One flesh means one mind with shared dreams; not “getting my way.” When we allow competing goals and dreams, when we have more than one mind, when we see our spouse’s “growing edges” as annoying and not an opportunity to show love, when we operate as more than one person, it is not healthy.

That young Army specialist in 2003 was me. My wife and I made it through that deployment and will celebrate 11 years of marriage this year. In addition to talking and listening to folks with wisdom (e.g. chaplain, counselor, pastor) we also read books. We learned about our own strengths and growing edges. We then learned about each others’.

In 2003, the dust storm ended and the coalition forces marched successfully to Baghdad. Know that the storms of your marriage will blow over and in years to come you can celebrate the victories. Love. Learn. Grow. And love some more.

Chaps recommends the following reading list, for great relationship success:

“For Men Only: A Straightforward Guide to the Inner Lives of Women,” by Shaunti Feldhahn

“For Women Only: What You Need to Know about the Inner Lives of Men,” by Shaunti Feldhahn

“The 5 Love Languages: The Secret to Love that Lasts,” by Gary Chapman

ONLY AT GTMO by Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Ty Bjornson





I love my friend Lisa. She's a sweet girl who's always been searching for herself. She's spent a lot of time traveling and studying other cultures and philosophies. I remember corresponding with her when she lived in the woods at a commune in Florida. That's been quite awhile back. Last I knew, she wants to conceive a "shaman baby" that will grow up to be a great spiritual leader and teacher.

I couldn't help but think of Lisa as I watched "Wanderlust," the latest Paul Rudd and Jennifer Aniston date comedy. In addition to Lisa, there were many characters in the movie that I could totally relate to. That is what struck me the most: all the people in the movie that reminded me of many people I've met over the years and still hold friendships with to this very day. "Wanderlust" overflows with "Lisas." In the opposite end of the spectrum, is a materialistic character of great independent wealth with his dissatisfied trophy wife. Wow, do I know my fair share of these guys in real life too. These self-employed businessmen may have it made financially though they might not be happy. I am also sure many do not know what they really want.

The film opens with the forty-something yuppie wannabe couple George (Rudd, "I Love You Man") and Linda (Aniston,

"The Bounty Hunter"), who are trying to make it in New York City. They purchased an overpriced micro-sized apartment believing, no, hoping this is the world for them. They want to be self-sustaining and successful. After George's employer goes bankrupt, he finds himself out of work. Linda's documentary pitch to HBO also didn't pan out. Down and out in today's economy, things look really grim.

George's self-serving brother Rick (Ken Marino, "Californication") offers to take George and Linda into his oversized Georgia home and give George a job. On their way, George and Linda take lodging at Elysium, a free-spirited commune off the beaten path. It is here, George and Linda encounter a variety of kind, yet eccentrically open souls. George and Linda immensely enjoy their Elysium stay. They are welcomed by those who dwell there to live with them, but they decide to continue on their way to George's brother's place.

When the couple finally makes it to Rick's enormous home, they see firsthand what a miserable life Rick leads. He's arrogant, condescending and adulterous. His bored wife Marissa (Michaela Watkins, "Enlightened") is perpetually boozed-up to help her cope with loneliness and a virtual non-

existence. Deciding to leave it all behind, George and Linda elect to move into the Elysium commune.

What we get here is the "fish out of water" story. There are some funny bits about George and Linda trying to grasp the concepts of "free-spiritedness." Alan Alda ("Tower Heist") is great as the former hippie Carvin who helped to buy this property in 1971. A lifetime of being free of society's materialism and regular "overindulgences" have helped Calvin to remain as the gentle being that he is.

Probably one of the most memorable characters in the movie is Wayne (Joe Lo Truglio, "Role Models"). He is a nudist vintner who likes to write novels and screenplays. It doesn't matter if the material he writes is boring and mundane. He's a happy camper no matter what. His first on-screen appearance is what will stand out for most people.

The sultry Eva (Malin Akerman, "Watchmen") is all about a free-love encounter with the married George. Meanwhile the maniacal Seth (Justin Theroux, "Your Highness") has designs of his own in store for Linda and the fate of the commune.

There is an earnest sappiness about those living at Elysium. Each character exhibits a strong dislike and mistrust of the world

outside. They are perfectly content with themselves and their spiritual journeys. For them, there is no other way to live. These characters are rather chipper and, unfortunately, contrived. Maybe that's why I'm giving this movie a mediocre two and a half banana rats.

I felt the subject of a yuppie couple moving to a rural commune was ripe for a comedic ribbing. After all, the stories I've heard about what goes on in these places, including how genuine and dear the people who reside in them are, would lend to a very interesting and very humorous movie. However, in the case of "Wanderlust," I couldn't help but feel that the characters on the screen are fairly stereotypical ones. They were one-dimensional "cookie-cutter" weirdos, so to speak. Sure, there were some funny bits in this picture, but not enough for me to recommend it. Where were the big laughs? This kind of "fish out of water" story should have been "off the hook" with side-splitting laughs. Why weren't they there?

"Wanderlust" was directed by David Wain, who also did the much funnier film "Role Models" (2008). The cast features some of the usual actors that appear in the Judd Apatow ("The 40 Year Old Virgin" and "Superbad") "potty-mouth" comedies of the last decade. All the makings for a great over-the-top comedy seemed to be in place for "Wanderlust," but the film ultimately feels a little tame to me. With this much talent involved, there's no excuse for "Wanderlust" to be as pedestrian as it is.

"Wanderlust" is an okay film with likable folks. It aspires to be more than what it is and it shows. I hope the topic of communal free-spirited living will be revisited someday by filmmakers willing to do something daring and outrageously funny with the material. Hopefully those filmmakers would have enough sense to talk to Lisa. Man, does she have some great stories. Now any one of those tales would be "infinitely" funnier than what this movie was.

Caribbean Coffee & Cream – 77859
Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sun. 1-10 p.m.

Jerk House – 2535
Sun.-Th. 5-9 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 5-10 p.m.

Bowling Center – 2118
Mon.-Fri. 6-11 p.m.
Fri. 6 p.m.-12 a.m.
Sat. 1 p.m.-12 a.m.
Sun. & Holidays 1-11 p.m.

KFC and A&W Express – 75653
Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

McDonald's – 3797
Mon.-Th. 5 a.m.-11 p.m.
Fri-Sat. 5 a.m.-2 a.m.
Sun. 6 a.m.-11 p.m.

Pizza Hut – 77995
Mon.-Th. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Fri. 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Sat. & Sun. 12-9 p.m.

Windjammer – 77252
Fri. & Sat. 5 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Windjammer Cafe
Mon.-Th. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Fri. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sat. 5-10 p.m.
Sun. 5-9 p.m.

O'Kelly's Irish Pub
Mon.-Th. 5-9 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 5 p.m.-2 a.m.
Sun. 5-9 p.m.

NAVSTA Main Chapel

Daily Catholic Mass
Tues.-Fri. 5:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass
Saturday 5 p.m.

Mass
Sunday 9 a.m.

General Protestant
Sunday 11 a.m.

Gospel Service
Sunday 1 p.m.

Christian Fellowship
Sunday 6 p.m.

Pentecostal Gospel
Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m.
Room D

Protestant Communion
Sunday 10 a.m.
Room B

LDS Service
Sunday 10 a.m.
Room A

Islamic Service
Friday 1 p.m.
Room C

JTF Trooper Chapel

Protestant Worship
Sunday 9 a.m.

Bible Study
Wednesday 6 p.m.

GTMO Religious Services

For other services, contact the NAVSTA Chaplain's Office at 2323.

For more information, contact the JTF Chaplain's Office at 2305.

	20 FRI	21 SAT	22 SUN	23 MON	24 TUE	25 WED	26 THU
Downtown Lyceum	The Hunger Games (PG-13) 8 p.m. Act of Valor (R) 10 p.m.	Gone (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. Wanderlust (R) 10 p.m.	Journey 2 (last showing) (PG) 8 p.m.	Safe House (last showing) (R) 8 p.m.	This Means War (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Tyler Perry's Good Deeds (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Wrath of the Titans (PG-13) 8 p.m.
Camp Bulkeley	Gone (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m.	This Means War (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Safe House (last showing) (R) 8 p.m.	Journey 2 (PG) 8 p.m.	Wanderlust (R) 8 p.m.	The Hunger Games (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Tyler Perry's Good Deeds (PG-13) 8 p.m.

Call the movie hotline at 4880 or see <https://intranet/movies.html> for more information.



Left: Troopers with the 525th Military Police Battalion waded out of the Caribbean after completing a water survival training exercise April 11. The exercise was conducted as part of pre-service training for new Troopers with the battalion.
—photo by Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Ty Bjornson

Background: The sun rose over the U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay lighthouse April 18.
—photo by Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Kilho Park



The **JTF** At Shutter Speed